Alberta Finance
Economic Bulletin

Economic Statistics Released During the Week of September 15, 2003 to September 19, 2003

	Reference Period	Month/Previous Month (m/m)	Month/Previous Year's Month (y/y)	Comments
New Motor Vehicle Sales	July			New motor vehicle sales in Canada gained 12.6% in July, reaching 145,496 in number. The gain was primarily due to strong new truck sales (+19.5%). Domestic manufacturers' increased vehicle sales by 10.1%, while overseas manufacturers' dropped -0.7% in sales. All provinces recorded monthly increases, with the largest increases occurring in Saskatchewan (+24.8%), British Columbia (+22.2%), Nova Scotia (+18.9%), and Alberta (+16.6%).
Alberta	17,929	16.6%	5.6%	
Canada	145,496	12.6%	3.7%	
Manufacturing Shipments ($ Millions)	July			Canadian manufacturing shipments posted a 1.7% monthly increase July, after three months of negative growth. A 7.6% increase in motor vehicle shipments was the main contribution to the monthly gain. With the past three months averaging growth of -3.1%, Alberta manufacturing shipments also improved in July, increasing 0.5%. However, the partial export ban on Canadian beef products is continuing to affect Alberta's shipments of slaughtered animals (excluding poultry), with 2003 year-to-date levels 11.1% below the same period last year. New Brunswick (-4.5%), Saskatchewan (-2.0%), and Newfoundland (-1.1%) were the only three provinces to experience shipment declines, while Manitoba (+3.2%) and Ontario (+3.1%) led the remaining provinces in shipment gains.
Alberta	3,506	0.5%	4.2%	
Canada	42,950	1.7 %	-1.6 %	
Wholesale Trade ($ Millions)	July			Alberta's wholesale trade increased by 0.3% in July and by 9.0% on an annual basis. Similarly, national sales in July gained 1.1% from the previous month and were up 4.0% on a year-over-year basis. However, there has been a slowdown in national wholesale sales since February, as a result of a weak global markets. The best performing sectors in July were computer and electronic products (+9.1%), lumber and building materials (+5.3%), and beverage, drug and tobacco products (+4.3%).
Alberta	3,815	0.3%	9.0 %	
Canada	36,182	1.1%	3.7%	